

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/PAN:SMBELL:ASM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 005337

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS:PFOR/PN

SUBJECT:U.S.-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: MESSAGE TO
TACK ON NEXT NEGOTIATING ROUND

FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM BUNKER

1. WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING
PASSED TO TE MINISTER-NEGOTIATOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. BEGIN QUOTE

WASHINGTON,

JANUARY 9, 1976

CONFIDENTIAL

DEAR TONY,

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(A) THE ENTIRE UNITED STATES NEGOTIATING TEAM JOINS ME

IN SENDING YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES OUR BEST WISHES FOR
THE NEW YEAR.

(B) MAY IT BE MARKED BY THE CONCLUSION OF A TREATY.

(C) WE HAD AGREED TO BE IN TOUCH SHORTLY AFTER JANUARY 1,
AND I SIMPLY WANT TO LET YOU KNOW PERSONALLY THAT I WEL-
COME THE PROPOSAL WHICH NICO CONVEYED TO MOREY RESPECTING
THE NEXT ROUND SEVERAL DAYS AGO.

(D) AS I UNDERSTAND IT, OUR FULL TEAMS WOULD MEET AGAIN
IN EARLY FEBRUARY IN PANAMA TO CONTINUE THE TYPE OF WORK
WHICH WE UNDERTOOK LAST DECEMBER -- WORK WHICH, FROM MY
VIEWPOINT, WAS MOST POSITIVE.

(E) WE WOULD SEEK, THROUGH THE BARGAINING PROCESS
INITIATED HERE, TO MAXIMIZE THE AREAS OF AGREEMENT BE-
TWEEN US, AND TO IDENTIFY EXPLICITLY THE REMAINING -- HOPE-
FULLY NARROW -- AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT.

(F) I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT PRIOR TO THE FEBRUARY ROUND,
FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON THE LANDS AND WATERS MATTER WOULD
BE HELD IN PANAMA. TO FACILITATE THOSE DISCUSSIONS, WE
HAVE AS YOU KNOW FORWARDED A NEW VERSION OF PANAMA'S
PAPER FOR GENERAL FABREGA'S STUDY, AS WELL AS A MAP WHICH
WE MIGHT JOINTLY USE. TOM WILL AWAIT WORD FROM EDWIN
ON THE TIMING OF THESE DISCUSSIONS.

(G) I HAVE IN MIND THAT, IF IT IS CONVENIENT TO YOU AND
YOUR TEAM, WE MIGHT ARRIVE IN PANAMA APPROXIMATELY FEBRUARY
1, AND REMAIN AS LONG AS NECESSARY

(H) I HASTEN TO ADD, TONY, THAT SHOULD YOU PREFER THAT THE
PANAMANIAN TEAM TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON FOR THIS NEXT ROUND,
WE WOULD BE ENTIRELY AGREEABLE.

(I) I WILL WAIT TO HEAR FROM YOU RESPECTING YOUR WISHES
IN THESE MATTERS.

(J) WITH WARM REGARDS,
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(K) ELLSWORTH. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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